

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 are pending. By the Request for Approval of Drawing Corrections and this Amendment, Figures 3, 5 and 9, the title, the Abstract, the Specification and claim 1 have been amended and claim 10 has been added.

The attached Appendix includes a marked-up copy of each rewritten paragraph (37 C.F.R. §1.121(b)(1)(iii)) and claim (37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(1)(ii)).

The title and Abstract were objected to due to various informalities. By this Amendment, the title and Abstract have been amended responsive to the objections. It is respectfully requested the objections be withdrawn.

The drawings were objected to due to various informalities. By the Request for Approval of Drawing Corrections and the amendments to the specification, the specification and Figures 3, 5 and 9 have been amended to properly identify the features of the invention. It is respectfully requested the objection be withdrawn.

Applicants note that neither an objection nor a rejection was made to claim 9. Accordingly, Applicants will assume that claim 9 is allowable.

Claims 1-5 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Jones et al. (Jones), U. S. Patent No. 5,850,803. The rejections are respectfully traversed.

Jones fails to disclose a combination of a car bumper and a light unit for a motor vehicle, the car bumper covering a portion of a waistline of a vehicle body and comprising an outside skin formed by a wall of plastics material, the light unit having as component elements both a housing suitable for containing at least one light source and a glass enabling light emitted by the light source to be diffused, wherein the outside skin of the car bumper includes an arrangement forming at least a portion of at least one of the component elements of the light unit as recited in claim 1. Applicants' claimed invention is advantageous in

reducing the volume occupied by the rigid portions of the light unit so that any deformation of the car bumper surrounding the light unit can take place without the rigid portions of the light unit being harmed.

Jones fails to disclose Applicants' claimed invention because Jones fails to disclose a car bumper and a light unit from a motor vehicle. Furthermore, Jones fails to disclose or suggest the advantages of Applicants' claimed invention. In particular, Jones discloses a personal watercraft having daytime running headlights which are positioned above the deckline and forward of the handlebar so that light illuminating from the daytime running headlight is easily visible to other boaters even in relatively choppy water (col. 1, lines 37-41 and col. 3, lines 13-17). In order to protect the headlights 28, 30 from the effects of water, the headlights 28, 30 are located behind a sealed transparent lens cover 34, wherein the transparent lens cover 34 covers the headlight compartment 36 and is molded into the deck shell 14 of the watercraft 10 (col. 3, lines 18-28).

However, it is neither taught nor disclosed in Jones to disclose a car bumper and a light unit for a motor vehicle as recited in claim 1. Furthermore, no consideration is given in Jones to the fact that Applicants' car bumper undergoes various stresses due to crashes because Jones headlights 28, 30 are located behind the deckline 32. Thus, the headlights 28, 30 would not absorb the impact of a crash. In fact, the deckline 32, and not the headlights 28, 30, would absorb the effects of a crash. Accordingly, Applicants' assert that Jones fails to disclose Applicants' car bumper and light unit for a motor vehicle wherein the outside skin of the car bumper includes an arrangement forming at least a portion of at least one of the component elements of the light unit as recited in Applicants' claim 1. In addition, claims 2-5, 7 and 8 recite additional features of the invention and are also believed to be allowable at least for the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1 and for the additional features recited therein. It is respectfully requested the rejection be withdrawn.

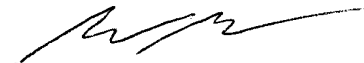
Claim 6 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Jones in vie of Bals et al. (Bals), U. S. Patent No. 4,750,093. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants assert that Bals fails to overcome the deficiencies of Jones as applied to claim 1. In addition, claim 6 recites additional features of the invention and is also believed to be allowable at least for the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1 and for the additional features recited therein. It is respectfully requested the rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submits that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1 - 10 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachments:  
Abstract  
Appendix

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